

# Statistics Weekly

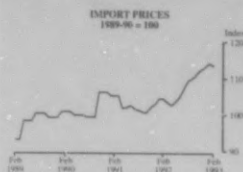
**Thursday, 29 April 1993**



## *The week in statistics ...*

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*statistics*



## Dollar's rise curbs import prices

The Import Price Index fell by 0.7 per cent in February 1993 after recording nine successive monthly rises.

The value of the Australian dollar rose against all the major trading currencies except the Yen in February. This led to price falls in a wide range of items. The most significant price falls were for chemicals, machinery and transport equipment and mineral fuels and lubricants.

Between February 1992 and February 1993 the index increased by 8.6 per cent.

**IMPORT PRICES, FEBRUARY 1993**  
Percentage change

Selected items	From previous month	From corresponding month of previous year
Crude materials	0.3	12.8
Machinery and transport equipment	-0.4	10.7
Mineral fuels, lubricants and other related materials	-2.0	9.5
Food and live animals	0.8	9.7
Beverages and tobacco	3.0	8.1
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	-0.4	7.2
Chemical products	-2.6	5.9
Manufactured goods	-0.4	5.2
Animal and vegetable oils, etc.	-3.0	3.0
All groups	-0.7	8.6

For further information, order the publication *Import Price Index, Australia* (6414.0), or contact Geoff Brown on (06) 252 5348.

## Sharp rise in vehicle registrations but trend remains flat

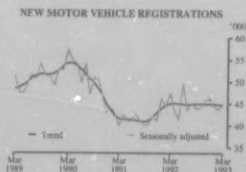
The trend estimates of new vehicle registrations remained flat despite a healthy seasonally adjusted outcome from the normal jump in registrations in March.

In March 1993, the trend estimate for total new motor vehicle registrations showed a small decrease of 0.1 per cent. In unadjusted terms, total new registrations rose by 29.4 per cent — from 39,835 in February to 51,598 in March, a change which translated into a 3.6 per cent rise after seasonal adjustment.

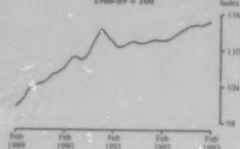
Over the 12 months to March 1993, movements in the monthly trend series of total registrations have been negligible, fluctuating around the 44,920 level within a narrow 1 per cent range.

All States and Territories recorded increases in original registrations in March, the smallest of these being in Western Australia (up 16.8%) and the largest recorded in the Northern Territory (up 55.6%).

For further information, order the publication *Registrations of New Motor Vehicles, Australia* (9301.0), or contact Kevin Yendon on (06) 252 6255.



PRICES OF MANUFACTURED GOODS  
1988-89 = 100



## Prices of manufactures rise

The price index of articles produced by manufacturing industry rose by 0.3 per cent in February 1993 and by 2.9 per cent in the year to February. Small price increases were recorded for a range of items in the index. These increases were partly offset by small price decreases for about 20 per cent of the index items.

PRICES OF MANUFACTURED GOODS, FEBRUARY 1993  
Percentage change

Manufacturing sector	From previous month	From corresponding month of previous year
Petroleum products	-0.6	8.1
Food, beverages and tobacco	0.6	3.8
Transport equipment	0.7	3.6
Other machinery and equipment	0.2	3.2
Chemicals and chemical products	0.4	1.7
Basic metal products	-0.3	1.2
Clothing and footwear	0.1	1.0
Fabricated metal products	0.0	0.6
Total manufacturing	0.3	2.9

For further information, order the publication *Price Indexes of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry*, Australia (6412.0), or contact Peter Cordy on (06) 252 5541.

PRICES OF MATERIALS USED IN  
MANUFACTURING  
1984-85 = 100



## Manufacturing materials steady

The price index of materials used in manufacturing industries showed no change between January and February 1993. While prices of imported materials fell by 0.8 per cent those for home produced materials increased by 0.5 per cent in February.

The main contributor to the decrease in the imported materials index was crude petroleum and condensates. However prices for home produced crude petroleum rose during February and, together with sheep and lambs, was a main contributor to the increase in the home produced index.

Between February 1992 and February 1993 prices of manufacturing materials increased by 4.8 per cent.

PRICE OF MATERIALS USED IN MANUFACTURING, FEBRUARY 1993  
Percentage change

Source of material	From previous month	From corresponding month of previous year
Imported	-0.8	4.9
Home produced	0.5	4.8
All manufacturing	0.0	4.8

For further information, order the publication *Price Indexes of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industries*, Australia (6411.0), or contact Geoff Brown on (06) 252 5348.

## Earnings: women make some ground

The gap between male and female employee earnings continues to narrow. At May 1992, median female employee earnings represented 72.6 per cent of male earnings, compared with 70.9 per cent in May 1991, and 69.7 per cent in May 1990.

The estimated median weekly earnings of all male employees in May 1992 was \$548.30, an increase of 2.4 per cent from May 1991. Female median weekly earnings increased by 5 per cent to \$398.20 over the same period.

Several factors contribute to the continuing inequality of earnings. For example, in May 1992 more than three-quarters of part-time workers were female, while more than three-quarters of managerial employees were male.

In May 1992, full-time non-managerial employees represented 63.6 per cent of all employees; full-time managerial and part-time employees represented 12.3 per cent and 24.1 per cent respectively.

Managers and administrators earned the highest average weekly total earnings for full-time adult males (\$880.70) and females (\$701.60). Male full-time adult labourers and related workers (\$517.70) and female full-time adult plant and machine operators, and drivers (\$413.10) earned the lowest average weekly total earnings.

Males earned more overtime pay than females in all of the published industry groupings. The highest weekly overtime earnings recorded for full-time adult non-managerial males and females occurred in the mining industry (\$164.60 and \$44.50 respectively).

Over-award pay for full-time adult non-managerial employees was considerably higher in the private sector (males \$16.00, females \$11.40) than in the public sector (\$1.70 and \$0.40 respectively).

Average weekly ordinary time hours paid for full-time adult non-managerial employees were 37.8 for males and 37.4 for females. For overtime, males worked, on average, 2.9 hours per week in the private sector and 1.7 hours in the public sector. Females in the private sector reported overtime hours of 0.7, compared with 0.4 hours for public sector females.

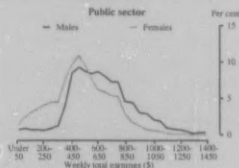
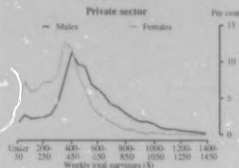
### COMPOSITION OF AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, MAY 1992

#### Full-time adult non-managerial employees Dollars

Average weekly earnings	Males	Females	Persons
Ordinary time earnings			
Award or agreed base rate of pay	537.60	503.41	524.70
Payment by measured result	9.20	2.20	6.60
Over-award pay	10.70	7.00	9.30
Overtime earnings	53.50	11.70	37.70
Total earnings	611.00	524.40	578.20

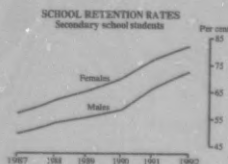
For further information, order the publication *Distribution and Composition of Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia (6306-0)*, or contact Denise Burton on (06) 252 5325.

TOTAL WEEKLY EARNINGS OF ALL EMPLOYEES  
May 1992



## Average school size grows, and Year 12 retention still climbing

Final figures from the 1992 annual schools census show that the number of students continues to increase while the number of schools is decreasing. In July 1992, the number of students totalled 3,098,966, a rise of nearly 24,000 since 1991, and 57,000 since 1990. In contrast, the number of schools has fallen by 23 since 1991, and 50 since 1990. The number of schools with more than 1,000 students rose from 256 in 1990 to 294 in 1992.



The strong rise in the apparent retention rate of students continuing to Year 12 has been a contributing factor to the increase in student numbers, with the 1992 figures showing that 77 per cent of students now complete their secondary schooling. This compares with 64 per cent in 1990, and just 36 per cent a decade ago.

The schools census also showed that the number of full-time and part-time teaching staff at government and non-government schools in July 1992 totalled 217,129 persons, representing 202,066 full-time equivalent (FTE) staff units.

There was the equivalent of 147,845 full-time teaching staff in government schools in July 1992, a rise of 1,950 (1%) since 1991, while teaching staff in non-government schools totalled 54,221 full-time equivalent units, also an increase of 1 per cent (583). Three-quarters of teaching staff in primary schools were female, compared with a roughly even distribution of males and females in secondary schools. This was the case in both government and non-government schools.

Among other findings, the schools census revealed that student/teaching staff ratios ranged from 14 students per teacher in the Northern Territory, to 16 in New South Wales, with the average across Australia being 15.

The annual schools census is the result of cooperation between the Australian Bureau of Statistics and Commonwealth, State and Territory education authorities through the Australian Education Council's committee on school statistics.

SCHOOLS, JULY 1992

	Government schools	Non-government schools	All schools
Schools	7,448	2,509	9,957
Students	2,234,083	864,883	3,098,966
Teaching staff	147,845	54,221	202,066
Non-teaching staff	33,403	14,186	47,589

## Hotel/motel occupancy rates improve slightly

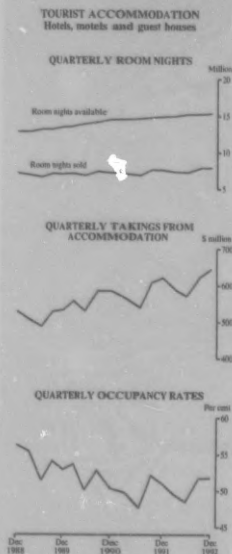
Average room occupancy rates for hotels and motels in Australia increased to 51.8 per cent in the December quarter 1992 compared with 51.0 per cent in the December quarter 1991.

Demand for accommodation in hotels and motels increased by 4.3 per cent to 7.9 million room nights occupied in the December quarter 1992 compared with 7.6 million in the corresponding quarter of the previous year. At the same time, rooms available increased by only 2.9 per cent.

Significant room occupancy rate increases were recorded for the Australian Capital Territory (6.0 percentage points), Northern Territory (3.8 percentage points) and Queensland (2.2 percentage points). New South Wales and South Australia had small room occupancy rate increases while Victoria, Western Australia and Tasmania had small decreases.

Nationally, guest arrivals increased by 4.2 per cent despite decreases recorded for Western Australia and Tasmania. Average length of stay remained steady at 2.0 days, ranging from 2.4 days in Queensland and Western Australia to 1.8 days in New South Wales and Victoria.

Takings from accommodation increased by 3.8 per cent to \$645 million, while the average takings per room night was unchanged at \$82. During this period, the Consumer Price Index increased by only 0.3 per cent.



**TOURIST ACCOMMODATION**  
Hotels, motels and guest houses

	December quarter		Percentage change
	1991	1992	
Rooms available ('000)	161.9	166.6	2.9
Room nights occupied ('000)	7,570.5	7,899.5	4.3
Room occupancy rate (%)	51.0	51.8	n.a.
Guest arrivals ('000)	6,603.5	6,881.8	4.2
Average length of stay (days)	2.0	2.0	0.0
Takings from accommodation (\$m)	621.4	645.0	3.8

The number of holiday flats, units and houses available Australia wide for short-term letting decreased by 0.8 per cent and unit nights occupied decreased by 1.4 per cent. The unit occupancy rate this fell from 51.2 to 50.8 per cent. Accommodation takings decreased by 2.6 per cent to \$93 million.

For caravan parks, takings from accommodation increased by 4.2 per cent to \$102 million. Of total caravan park capacity available, 16.6 per cent was occupied by long-term residents, 14.4 per cent was permanently reserved but only casually occupied by its tenants, and an average 10.6 per cent was occupied by other short-term guests.

*Continued ...*

Visitor hostels (backpacker establishments) recorded a bed occupancy rate of 43.1 per cent in the December quarter 1992, compared with 42.9 per cent in the December quarter 1991. Takings from accommodation were \$11.6 million at an average \$12 per guest night. New South Wales (55.5%) and Queensland (49.0%) had the highest bed occupancy rates, while Queensland accounted for 34.1 per cent of the takings from accommodation, followed by New South Wales with 27.6 per cent.

*For further information, order the publication Tourist Accommodation, Australia (8635.0), or contact John Alexander on (7) 222 6215.*

## Mining a rich lode from Census 91

You already know that on the night of Tuesday, 6 August 1991, there were 16,850,334 people in Australia. The mass media told you that and a few other things about the 1991 Census of Population and Housing when final results of the Census were released on 15 April.

As readers of *Statistics Weekly* would know, however, the broad sketch of Australian society extracted from the Census by the media was the tip of an enormous iceberg of information that is now available for customers of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

This article aims to provide a glimpse of the kinds of data available, and to explain how the ABS has taken full advantage of both technology and its own collection techniques to make the data accessible to all kinds of users.

Probably the greatest advantage for policy makers, marketing people and researchers is the precision with which the ABS can select Census data to meet the closely defined needs of users.

For example, we know that nationally 7.7 per cent of the population had a degree or higher academic qualification in August 1991, and we know that just 3.3 per cent of the population earned annual income of more than \$50,000. But how useful is that information if you are involved in a project dealing with well educated, high income people in, say, Lane Cove, or in the whole North Shore region of Sydney?

No problem. The ABS can provide the relevant Census data for postcode area 2066, and/or produce aggregated data for the group of postcodes that make up the broader North Shore region.

You may wish to specify some other parameters for your target group, such as ethnicity, occupation, or type of dwelling occupied. The ABS will build those in to the product it delivers.

For some purposes you may wish to zero in on an even smaller area; once again the answer is 'can do'. There are almost 32,000 Census collection districts in Australia, each comprising about 200 households, and data can be supplied right down to the collection district level.

As well as information customised to your specific needs, the ABS produces standard 'Community Profiles' giving selected summary statistics for any area from collection district or postcode to an entire State.

Most of the information generated from the Census is available in a variety of forms from hard copy to floppy disk and CD-Rom. CDATA91, a CD-Rom product, which combines the full small area Census data base for a State or the whole country with data manipulation and thematic mapping presentation software, will be available in July this year.

These are just a few examples of the services developed by the ABS to make Census data accessible to the widest possible range of users. The Bureau's Population Census Marketing Section will be happy to assist potential users with detailed information about the Census products most appropriate to their needs.

If you would like to be kept informed of future releases of Census products and services, subscribe to *Census Update* by calling (06) 252 5398.

## Private new capital expenditure in brief ...

### Actual expenditure — December quarter 1992

In seasonally adjusted 1989-90 price terms, expenditure increased by 11 per cent in the December quarter 1992. Expenditure on buildings and structures decreased by 2 per cent while expenditure on equipment, plant and machinery increased by 18 per cent.

In current price terms, the seasonally adjusted estimates of total capital expenditure show an increase of 13 per cent over the September 1992 quarter. Changes by broad industry since the September quarter 1992 are: other selected industries 39 per cent, manufacturing 9 per cent, mining 1 per cent and finance, property and business services -12 per cent.

### Expected new capital expenditure 1992-93

The latest estimate of expected new capital expenditure for 1992-93 is \$24,731 million which is slightly higher than the corresponding expectation for 1991-92 from the December quarter 1991 survey. The expectation for 1992-93 from the December quarter 1992 survey is 2 per cent higher than the corresponding expectation from the September quarter 1992 survey.

This latest expectation for 1992-93 is 21 per cent above the first one which was reported in the December quarter 1991 survey. The corresponding change in the expectation series for 1991-92 was +6 per cent and for 1990-91 was +7 per cent.



## New standard for research and development statistics

An advance in research and development (R&D) statistics has just been achieved with the release of the 1993 *Australian Standard Research Classification* (ASRC).

The ASRC is the collective title of a set of three classifications developed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) in association with:

- ☐ Australian Science and Technology Council;
- ☐ Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee;
- ☐ Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation;
- ☐ Department of Employment, Education and Training;
- ☐ Department of the Environment, Sport and Territories;
- ☐ Department of Health;
- ☐ Department of Industry, Technology and Regional Development;
- ☐ Department of Primary Industries and Energy; and
- ☐ National Health and Medical Research Council.

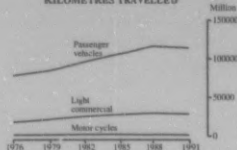
The ASRC is designed for classifying R&D by type of activity, field of research, and socio-economic objective (a purpose classification). As well as being used by the ABS for national statistical purposes, the ASRC is also expected to be used by a number of organisations for the recording and management of their own R&D and as a mechanism for making comparisons with a variety of reliable ABS statistics.

The publication is innovative and its component classifications generally more detailed than those used in other countries. It is therefore expected to be of interest to the OECD National Experts of Science and Technology Indicators (NESTI) in further developing an international framework for R&D statistics. The ASRC has been largely developed in accordance with the OECD Proposed Standard Practice for Surveys of Research and Experimental Development, 'FRASCATI MANUAL', Fifth Revision, 1992.

Statistics on expenditure and human resources devoted to R&D in Australia are compiled by the ABS from data collected in the annual ABS Survey of Research and Experimental Development. An interim version of the ASRC was used in the collection of data in the R&D Survey in respect of 1991-92. The 1993 ASRC will be used shortly in the R&D Survey for 1992-93.

For further information, order the publication *Australian Standard Research Classification* (1297.0), or contact the Assistant Director, Commodity Classification on (06) 252 7469.

KILOMETRES TRAVELLED



## Road use drops off in 1991

The total distance travelled by motor vehicles in Australia in the year ending September 1991 dropped by 2.3 per cent compared with the same period in 1988, from 153,915 million kilometres to 150,389 million kilometres.

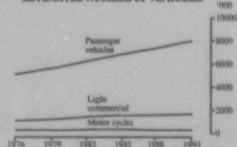
This was the first decrease in distance travelled since regular surveys commenced in 1976.

The decrease occurred across most vehicle types, although light commercial vehicles and articulated trucks showed increases in total distance travelled of 3.8 per cent and 3.2 per cent, respectively. The total distance travelled by passenger vehicles, which accounted for 76 per cent of all distance travelled, decreased by 2 per cent.

**TOTAL KILOMETRES TRAVELLED**  
Twelve months ended 30 September  
Million kilometres

Type of vehicle	1988	1991	Percentage change
Passenger vehicles	116,640	114,286	- 2.0
Motor cycles	1,924	1,615	- 16.1
Light commercial vehicles	21,982	22,814	3.8
Rigid trucks	7,840	6,114	- 22.0
Articulated trucks	3,836	3,959	3.2
Other truck types	261	201	- 23.1
Buses	1,433	1,401	- 2.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>153,915</b>	<b>150,389</b>	<b>- 2.3</b>

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF VEHICLES



The decrease in total distance travelled occurred despite an increase of 7.6 per cent in the number of vehicles in Australia between 1988 and 1991.

**ESTIMATED NUMBER OF VEHICLES**  
Twelve months ended 30 September  
'000

Type of vehicle	1988	1991	Percentage change
Passenger vehicles	7,376	8,008	8.6
Motor cycles	294	284	- 3.5
Light commercial vehicles	1,179	1,346	14.2
Rigid trucks	405	331	- 18.3
Articulated trucks	49	52	6.9
Other truck types	14	14	- 38.9
Buses	41	42	3.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,365</b>	<b>10,077</b>	<b>7.6</b>

The combination of a decrease in the total distance travelled, together with an increase in the number of vehicles, has led to a sharp decrease in the average distance travelled by each vehicle, from 16,400 kilometres in 1988 to 14,900 kilometres in 1991, the lowest since regular surveys commenced in 1976.

## Inquiries

The ABS supplies a wide range of statistical information:

- ☐ through its bookshops
- ☐ by mail order (including subscription)
- ☐ by facsimile
- ☐ electronically.

To order any of the publications mentioned in *Statistics Weekly* or to inquire about the statistics and services available from the ABS, contact Information Services at any of the offices listed below. An Information Consultancy Service in each office provides assistance of a more extensive or complex nature.

### ABS Central Office

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FAX (06) 253 1404

### ABS State Offices

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WA (09) 323 5140  
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### Editor

(06) 252 6104

**Statistics Weekly**  
29 April 1993

## Order from the following:

### Expected releases over the fortnight to 4 May

#### April

- 28 Consumer Price Index, March Quarter 1993 (6401.0; \$11.70)
- 29 Manufacturing Production, Australia, March 1993, Preliminary (8301.0; \$10.70)

#### May

- 4 Balance of Payments, Australia, March 1993 (5301.0; \$16.30)  
Average Weekly Earnings, Australia February 1993, Preliminary (6301.0; \$10.70)  
Building Approvals, Australia, March 1993 (8731.0; \$13.30)
- 11 Retail Trade, Australia, March 1993 (8501.0; \$10.70)

### Selected releases: 21 to 27 April

#### General

Economic Indicators, WA, April 1993 (1307.5; \$6.50) — *new issue*  
Northern Territory Business Indicators, April 1993 (1307.7; \$7.50)

#### Census of Population and Housing

1991 Census — ACT and Town Centre Districts: Selected Characteristics (2821.8; \$25.00) — *new issue*

#### National accounts, finance and foreign trade

Australian National Accounts: Capital Stock, 1991-92 (5221.0; \$21.40)  
Foreign Trade, Aust.: Merchandise Exports, February 1993 (5432.0; \$9.70)  
Private New Capital Expenditure, Aust., Actual and Expected  
Expenditure to June 1994, December Qtr 1992 Survey (5626.0; \$10.70)

#### Labour statistics and prices

Labour Force, SA, February 1993 (6201.4; \$16.30)

#### Agriculture

Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Tas., 1991-92 (7503.6; \$16.30)

#### Manufacturing, Mining, Energy, Service Industries, Building and Construction

Manufacturing Production, Aust.: Building Materials and Fittings, February 1993 (8361.0; \$9.00)  
Manufacturing Production, Aust.: Transport Equipment, February 1993 (8363.0; \$7.00)  
Manufacturing Production, Aust.: Metal Products, February 1993 (8367.0; \$7.00)  
Manufacturing Production, Aust.: Energy Products, February 1993 (8368.0; \$7.00)  
Building Activity, NSW, December Qtr 1992 (8752.1; \$10.70)  
Dwelling Unit Commencements Reported by Approving Authorities, Qld, January 1993 (8741.3; \$10.70)  
Building Activity, Qld, December Qtr 1992 (8752.3; \$10.70)  
Building Activity, NT, December Qtr 1992 (8752.7; \$10.70)

#### Transport

Interstate Freight Movement, Aust., 1991-92 (9212.0; \$8.20)

Key national indicators	Period	Units	Latest figure available		Percentage change (a) on	
			Original	Seasonally adjusted	Previous period	Corresponding period last year
<b>National accounts</b>						
Gross domestic product (GDP(A)) at 1989-90 prices (e)	Dec. qtr 92	\$m	n.a.	93,598	0.7	2.5
<b>International accounts</b>						
Balance on current account (b)	Feb. 93	\$m	- 660	- 797	76	4
Balance on merchandise trade (b)	"	"	207	365	-45	29
Balance on goods and services (b)	"	"	352	198	-64	27
Merchandise exports	"	"	4,637	5,053	-3	13
Merchandise imports	"	"	-4,430	-4,688	3	12
Net foreign debt	31 Dec. 92	\$m	168,251	n.a.	2.7	16.1
Net foreign liabilities	"	"	213,744	n.a.	2.6	13.1
<b>Consumption and investment</b>						
Retail turnover at current prices	Feb. 93	\$m	7,102	8,114	-0.1	4.1
New capital expenditure at 1989-90 prices	Dec. qtr 92	"	7,020	6,472	13.0	10.9
New motor vehicle registrations	Mar. 93	no.	51,598	45,109	3.6	-5.1
<b>Production</b>						
Manufacturers' sales at 1989-90 prices	Dec. qtr 92	\$m	34,960	33,470	2.7	2.2
Dwelling unit approvals	Feb. 93	no.	13,043	14,330	-4.5	19.4
Building approvals	"	\$m	1,826	2,124	-11.9	21.0
Building work done at 1989-90 prices	Dec. qtr 92	"	6,391	6,086	2.0	6.1
<b>Prices</b>						
Consumer price index (d)	Dec. qtr 92	1989-90 = 100.0	107.9	n.a.	0.5	0.3
Articles produced by manufacturing industry	Feb. 93	1988-89 = 100.0	114.8	n.a.	0.3	2.9
Materials used in manufacturing industries	Feb. 93	1984-85 = 100.0	126.7	n.a.	0.0	4.8
<b>Labour force and demography</b>						
Employed persons	Mar. 93	'000	7,730.1	7,727.3	0.9	0.4
Participation rate †	"	%	63.0	62.7	0.3	-0.4
Unemployment rate †	"	"	11.3	10.9	-0.2	0.4
Job vacancies	Feb. 93	'000	29.8	28.9	-4.4	8.3
Average weekly overtime per employee	"	hours	1.14	1.16	3.0	3.8
Estimated resident population at end of qtr	Sept. 92	million	17.6	n.a.	0.3	1.3
Short-term overseas visitor arrivals	Jan. 93	'000	243	239	7.7	19.7
<b>Incomes</b>						
Company profits before income tax	Dec. qtr 92	\$m	4,853	3,728	-10.2	25.1
Average weekly earnings, full-time adults; ordinary time	Nov. 92	\$	586.90	n.a.	0.2	1.4
<b>Financial markets</b>						
Interest rates (c) (monthly average)						
90-day bank bills †	Feb. 93	% per annum	5.80	n.a.	-0.05	-1.70
10-year Treasury bonds †	"	"	8.00	n.a.	0.60	-2.05
Exchange rate — \$/US	Feb. 93	per \$A	0.6812	n.a.	1	-9

(a) Based on seasonally adjusted figures where available. (b) For percentage changes, a minus sign indicates an increase in the deficit; no sign means a decrease in the deficit or an increase in the surplus. (c) Source: Reserve Bank of Australia. (d) Later figures expected to be released Wednesday, 28 April 1993.  
 NOTES: † = change is shown in terms of percentage points. n.a. = not available.

## Key State indicators

	Period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
New capital expenditure*	Sept. qtr 92	-15.9	-15.2	2.9	-29.3	0.3	-18.8	n.a.	n.a.	-10.6
Retail turnover (trend estimate)	Feb. 93	0.7	2.8	6.8	-0.8	8.7	6.0	n.a.	7.0	3.5
New motor vehicle registrations†	Mar. 93	-4.5	-3.9	-10.5	-5.6	-3.5	2.6	16.3	25.3	-5.1
Number of dwelling unit approvals*	Feb. 93	29.4	15.7	-2.6	91.7	30.2	-27.8	-37.8	-0.6	19.4
Value of total building work done	Dec. qtr 92	0.7	-1.2	15.8	15.2	16.4	13.1	-9.5	-0.5	5.6
Employed persons*	Mar. 93	-2.9	0.6	3.5	0.4	5.1	-0.1	-5.5	4.9	0.3
Capital city consumer price index	Dec. qtr 92	0.3	-0.2	0.7	1.7	0.0	0.6	0.9	1.0	0.3
Average weekly earnings (full-time adult ordinary time)	Nov. 92	0.9	1.2	1.4	3.4	1.2	3.2	5.9	1.7	1.4
Population	Sept. 92	1.1	0.8	2.5	0.7	1.6	0.8	1.0	2.3	1.3
Room nights in licensed hotels and motels, etc.	Sept. qtr 92	3.9	2.5	3.7	0.2	2.0	-0.7	-0.7	1.7	2.9

\* Seasonally adjusted except for NT and ACT. † Seasonally adjusted except for Tas., NT and ACT.  
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